

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 1, 2, and 3. The replacement sheets replace the original sheets with Figures 1, 2, and 3. The aforementioned figures were amended in compliance with the requirement set forth by the Examiner.

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application.

Objections to Figures

Applicant has amended Figures 1, 2, and 3 to include the designation of prior art as directed by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 7-9, 13, 17-20, 23-24, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wolfston, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 5,815,155)("Wolfston"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. As shown below, Applicant respectfully submits that Wolfston does not disclose all of the features of 1, 13, 17, and 23.

For the sake of brevity, not all of the many differences between the Wolfston reference and the claimed invention will be discussed. Claims 1, 13, 17, and 23 in general terms include the feature of updating a first display area when a particular node (in claim 13, a path choice) is selected in a second display area. Applicant respectfully submits that Wolfston does not disclose this feature. Applicant respectfully submits that Wolfston discloses display and navigation for an internet web site. (See, e.g., Wolfston, column 4, lines 17-22) For example, Figure 2a of Wolfston displays a screen of a web page showing the links to different web pages that a user can access. In such an example, once a user visits the "Equinet" web page, by clicking on, for example, the "horses" link, the "horses" web page is accessed and displayed. Therefore, a different screen is displayed when the new web page is accessed. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that Wolfston does not update the

first display area because Wolfston shows a different screen display from a new web page when a link is accessed.

Additionally, Figure 2b of Wolfston shows a different screen than the screen of Figure 2a after the "horses" link of Figure 2a has been accessed. As can be seen, a first display area is not updated but an entirely new screen showing a new web page is displayed. In contrast the claimed inventions can update the first display area after selection of a node in the second display area. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Figure 2b of Wolfston does not update the first display area.

Additionally, with respect to claims 1, 17, and 23, Applicant further submits that Wolfston does not disclose or suggest updating a second display area to display a plurality of nodes when a node is selected in the second display area. Again, as described above Wolfston displays a different screen when a link to a new web page is accessed and therefore does not update certain display areas of the screen.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that Wolfston does not disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claims 1, 13, 17, and 23. Moreover, the dependent claims are submitted to allowable for at least the reasons as the independent claims. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests that the section 102 rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5-6, 10-12, 14-16, 21-22, and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolfston, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 5,815,155)("Wolfston"). Applicant respectfully traverse this rejection. As shown below, Wolfston does not disclose or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention as required to establish a prima facie case of obviousness as is required in a section 103 rejection.

As discussed above, Wolfston does not disclose or suggest the updating of the first display area or the second display area after selection of a node in the second display.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims as discussed above.

The Office has stated that "it is well known in the state of the art that the leaf node of the present invention is implemented in the hierarchical tree of Wolfston" and that "it is well known in the state of the art that the size of first and second displays is independent of each other" and that "it is well known in the state of the art that the enter key of Wolfston is implemented in the right arrow key input and character input." The Office then took official notice of these assertions. The Office also took official notice that "implementations removing the second display area if the child node is a leaf node are well known in the art." Applicant respectfully traverses the aforementioned assertions and the official notices. Applicant believes that these assertions should not be officially noticed because the assertions in the context of the claimed invention is not capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being well-known and because Wolfston does not disclose or suggest the updating of a first display or a second display area as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office provide documentary evidence supporting all of the assertions and Official Notices recited in the Office Action in accordance with M.P.E.P. section 2144.03.

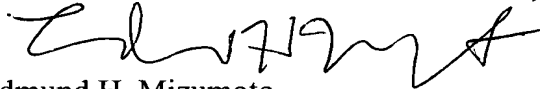
Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited prior art does not disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 5-6, 10-12, 14-16, 21-22, and 25-26. As a result, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office has failed to present a prima facie case of obviousness. Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the section 103 rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that these claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may

Application No. 09/844,258
Amendment dated March 3, 2005
Response to Office Action mailed November 3, 2004

reach the undersigned at (408) 749-6900 ext. 6927. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. SUNMP060C).

Respectfully submitted,
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